

## BIG REALTY DEAL IS SET TORRANCE KEEPS WIDE LOTS

### CITY COUNCIL FAILS TO VOTE DOWN PLANNING COMMISSION IN 50-FOOT FRONTAGE PLEA

City lots in Torrance will remain at the 60-foot frontage and 6000 square foot minimum as new subdivisions open and building progresses.

This was the outcome of a vote Tuesday night in the City Council where councilmen, under apparent urging by real estate interests, attempted to over-throw the recommendation of the City Planning Commission which sponsored the 60-foot frontage ruling.

### Beardon Will Meet Tidwell In Union Vote

Max Beardon, Torrance food store employe and long-time member of the retail clerks union in both Los Angeles and the harbor area, will oppose Haskell Tidwell as a candidate for the office of financial secretary and treasurer of the Retail Clerks Union No. 905, at the election to be held May 20, it was announced today by George A. Hart Jr., spokesman for the "rank and file" group members of the union. Hart is a Long Beach attorney.

Beardon, at first, stated he would run as a "write-in" candidate, but after a conference Wednesday morning with Tidwell, Beardon said that Tidwell had agreed to reopen the nominations before the election is held.

Posting of a \$1,000.00 cash reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrators of the vicious attack on W. K. Verbeckmose, food market manager at San Pedro, was announced today by Harry Carr, chairman of the San Pedro Civic Betterment League.

The money has been deposited with officers of the Security-First National Bank at San Pedro, Carr states. Verbeckmose is one of the seven members of the Retail Clerks' Union No. 905, who brought action in the Superior Court compelling Haskell Tidwell to hold a proper election of union officers on May 20.

Following the attack at his home by three thugs, Verbeckmose told harbor police, "this assault, I am sure, is the result of my activities in the Retail Clerks' union, of which I am a member."

The rank and file committee of the union was organized Monday evening in a meeting at the Y.M.C.A. in San Pedro, with avowed purpose of making certain that all members of the union know the provisions of the local's constitution, according to an announcement from the group.

They have organized to make sure that the election of May 20.

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### Body Of Snell, Death Poetry Found In Auto

"... the weeping of a soul in pain."

With these words scribbled on a paper beside him, the lifeless body of Edward D. Snell, 21, of 1514 West 211th street, was found by police officers last Thursday night slumped behind the wheel of

Realtor Paul Vonderahe took the floor before a packed council chamber to urge that the council adopt a 60-foot, 5000-squares foot minimum by failing to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation. He was followed to the floor by former Mayor W. H. Tolson, real estate and investment broker. Tolson urged with Vonderahe in behalf of the 50-foot, 5000 square-foot plan, a program that obviously would allow a subdivider more lots to sell within subdivision boundaries.

W. J. Carothers spoke for the Planning Commission recommendation. He said that he appreciated space where he lived, that a man's "home is his castle", and he should have some freedom to move around.

When the vote was called by Mayor J. Hugh Sherry, Jr., councilmen George Powell and Nicholas Draie voted "aye", that is, with the commission, while councilmen Bob L. Haggard, A. L. Jackson, and Mayor Sherry voted "no".

City Attorney C. Douglass Smith pointed out that it would take a four-fifths vote to override the planning commission and that the 60-foot frontage rule still remains in force.

### Marihuana Grower Held To Answer In Superior Court

Stating to police that he was using a brew of marihuana weed to rub on his rheumatism, Juan M. Alvarez, 53, who lives in the Pueblo district, was arrested by Torrance police May 5 and booked on the charge of growing the narcotic in his cornfield.

The case was turned over to State Narcotic Division officers who were present at the time of Alvarez's arrest and pulled up 27 plants of the drug. Alvarez was arraigned in Municipal Court in Los Angeles on May 10 and held to answer in the Superior Court on the felonious charge. Bail was set at \$2500.

### Weather Report

The following temperature recordings were made by the official weather station in Torrance during the last week:

Day	Maximum	Minimum
5	59	57
6	72	57
7	68	47
8	68	47
9	70	48
10	69	47
11	69	48

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### Another \$1,700,000 Home Project Breaks Ground Here Today

Involving approximately \$1,700,000, another gigantic home development in Torrance got under way this morning as caterpillars and graders broke ground for 180 new homes in north Torrance.

According to S. M. Taper, president of Biltmore Homes, Inc., builders, the project, to be known as Torrance Gardens, will encompass nearly 40 acres between 170th and 174th streets west of Crenshaw blvd.

**PROGRAM LISTED**  
Included in the 180 new dwellings will be 120 two-bedroom homes, priced at approximately \$8450, 45 three-bedroom homes, at approximately \$9750, and 15 duplexes, bringing approximately \$14,750. All single family units will include a two-car garage while only one garage will be provided for each of occupants of the duplexes, Taper said.

Exact price will be subject of the appraisal of the Veterans administration and homes will be sold under F.H.A. terms, according to Taper, who added that there would be only one price for each house offered to veterans and non-veterans alike. Owner of the new tract is the Southwest Properties, Inc., of which Taper is president.

Taper, builder of 2400 homes in the Long Beach area, said that six lots on the northwest corner of Crenshaw boulevard and 174th street would be reserved for business developments to serve the new tract.

### Edison Company Dedicates New Redondo Plant

Southern California Edison Company yesterday held dedication ceremonies for its new \$38,000,000 steam-electric generating station at Redondo Beach.

Representatives of the state, county, beach area cities and civic organizations met at the station for luncheon and a brief program. Included in the group from Torrance were: Mayor J. Hugh Sherry Jr., Councilmen A. L. Jackson, Bob Haggard and George C. Powell, City Administrator George W. Stevens and Publisher Grover C. Whyte of the Torrance Herald.

Speakers included Lieutenant-Governor Goodwin J. Knight, Supervisor Raymond V. Darby, Mayor Charles H. Wortham of Redondo Beach and William C. Mullendore, Edison president. Harry J. Bauer, chairman of the board of directors of the Edison Company, was master of ceremonies. Following luncheon and concluding the program, visitors were taken on an inspection of the plant by W. L.

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### Baptists Break Ground In Huge Church Program

Involving approximately \$120,000 with another \$135,000 project to come, the First Baptist Church of Torrance broke ground Sunday for its sanctuary unit, a church building at Carson st. and Manuel ave. Church school facilities are anticipated.

Ground-breaking ceremonies followed the regular morning service. Worshipers and their friends watched Rev. C. Miles Northrup, minister and Building Chairman Harry Hillier turn the first shovelful of earth.

### VESTED CHOIR

A vested choir, directed by Howard Gilliam, sang an old hymn of the church, "Onward, Christian Soldiers," as ground breaking progressed. Responsive Bible readings on faith were observed. Britton Ross, dean of the Baptist Bible college, offered prayer. Robert Coburn, pastor's assistant, pronounced the benediction.

At the regular Sunday service, contributions totaling \$5500 were made, bringing the cash-on-hand building fund to approximately \$64,000.

When completed, the sanctuary will accommodate approximately 650 persons. Construction, according to Don S. Ely of West Los Angeles, builder, will require about six months. The architect is John Fleming, of Glendale.

### MORE UNITS

After sanctuary dedication, the church intends to start its program for educational buildings. The plans are drawn now but this \$135,000 additional project will wait until the church unit itself is completed.



NOT TO HIM! . . . It can't happen here if the Torrance Area Youth Band has its way about it. Juvenile delinquency in similar organizations is virtually unknown throughout the land. No member of the Torrance Area Youth Band stands much of a chance of becoming a police problem. The band needs uniforms. The band needs instruments. Little Wayne Bischoff helped by "going to jail" for the Herald's staff photographer. There's a way for you to help, too. . . . dollars. (Staff photo.)

### 'FESTIVAL' PARADE READY TO MARCH HERE SATURDAY AS BAND HAILS MERCHANTS

Plans for the colorful parade to be staged in Torrance this Saturday at 2 p.m. are now complete. The parade is one of the many big events which climax the five-week Torrance Area Youth Band Uniform and Instrument Benefit campaign.

It is being staged by the Torrance Area Youth Band as a salute to the Torrance merchants and other persons who have contributed to the benefit campaign. Parade will assemble at the baseball parking lot on the corner of Lincoln and Arlington in South Torrance at 1:30 and move promptly a half-hour later. The route follows:

**Route of March**  
Leave Plaza del Amo and Arlington and march north to Carson, east to Cabrillo, north to Sartori, west on Sartori to Post, south on Post to Cravens, and east on Cravens to El Prado. It will disperse in the park by the Civic auditorium.

These groups are scheduled to participate: Torrance Area Youth Bands, Banning High School, Wilmington High School, Redondo Beach High School Band, Long Beach All Girls Pastel Band, Long Beach Mounted Guard, Empty Saddle Club, Little Hills Saddle Club.

Torrance V.F.W. Post No. 3251, Lomita V.F.W. Post No. 1622, Mrs. Leary, Palomino Horse and Silver riding outfit, three Boy Scout troops from this district, R. L. Kuest, assistant district commissioner, G. D. Flagg with his limousine and wood carvings; Torrance Cycle and Fix-it Shop, Torrance Junior Woman's Club, Army Recruiting Mobile Unit and Gra-Y Clubs from Torrance Y.M.C.A.

**Meet Miss Torrance**  
Among the entries will be the four young ladies who are contestants for the title of "Miss Torrance of 1948." Mary Ellen Crawford, Beverly Crook, Donna Mauk and Marie Kelton. Spon-

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### CONTEST STANDINGS

Beverly Crook, Optimist Club entry with 23,000 votes to her credit, last night moved into first place in the contest for "Miss Torrance of 1948," being staged by the Torrance Junior Woman's Club.

Donna Mauk, sponsored by the 26-30 Club is next with 20,000 votes. In third place with 14,755 votes is Mary Ellen Crawford. Lions Club entry and in fourth place the VFW Post entry, Marie Kelton, who has polled 3,100 votes.

### Griffith Co. To Get Contract In Street Job Here

Promptly at 8 p.m. Tuesday, bids were opened for proposed improvements on Cabrillo avenue between Sepulveda and 231st street, and Crenshaw between 190th and 203rd streets. City Clerk A. H. Bartlett presented the bids to the City Council. They follow:

Warren-Southwest, Inc., \$12,817.48; bond for \$1400—Griffith Co., \$12,725.41; bond for \$1500—Oswald Bros., \$14,725.53; cashier's check for \$2000—Asco Construction Co., \$13,942.44; bond for \$1500.

Upon the suggestion of City Administrator George W. Stevens, the lowest bid was accepted by the council; the Griffith Co., \$12,725.41.

The council's next session, primarily to hear re-zoning arguments, blasts and counter-blasts, will be held Monday, May 24.

### Drale Charges City One Day's Pay For Swingshift Absence

A peaceful lull in the City Council meeting Monday night turned into a blast when Councilman Bob L. Haggard blurted out with: "The people have voted not to pay \$50 to new councilmen any more, but if expense accounts come in from all councilmen like they do from one, it's going to cost the people of Torrance more than that."

Councilman Nicholas Drale tried to come to his own rescue with: "Where I work, I work days one week and swing the next. To attend council meetings on my swing shift time, I have to be absent from work. That means I don't get paid. I have been charging the City of Torrance one day's wages for each day lost."

It was learned from reliable sources that Councilman Drale gets \$1.95 an hour. For an eight-hour day that would amount to \$15.60.

### VOLUNTEER WORKERS

All women who distribute American Legion Auxiliary poppies on Poppy Days serve as unpaid volunteers, all contributions given them going to the Auxiliary's rehabilitation and child welfare funds.



HERE'S HOW THE new First Baptist Church will look when it is completed at the south east corner of Carson Street and Manuel Avenue. The project at hand involves \$120,000 with a still more elaborate building schedule to follow. Ground-breaking was celebrated last Sunday. The architect is John Fleming of Glendale.